



MILWAUKEE NUMISMATIC NEWS

May 2021 – Our monthly MNS meeting for May will be held on Thursday, May 20, beginning at 6 PM. The program for the meeting will be our semi-annual auction. Safety precautions are being followed and we encourage members to get vaccinated. Please see the president's message on page 2.

President: Justin Perrault
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Sgt. at Arms: Dave Herrewig
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Librarian: Justin Perrault

Vice President: Jim Heinrich
Treasurer: Chris Kantak
Trustee '19-'21: Lee Hartz
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The Milwaukee Numismatic Society, founded in 1934, is the oldest and largest organization in Milwaukee devoted to the study of money. Meetings in 2021 will be held at 6 PM in the Mayfair Mall community room on the third Thursday of each month.

May Coin of the Month: Once again from Chris Kantak, a Tallgrass Prairie coin with privy mark 2020 W 'V75' 25C First Release NGC MS 64 offered at a starting bid of \$40. Also, two ungraded of same coin in protective capsules at \$25 each, plus the same raw coin in a protective capsule with a "2nd Chance Raffle Drawing". Limit 30 tickets to be sold for \$1 each.



May 2021 MNS President's Message

Late last month I was able to attend the Nicolet Coin Club's show in Green Bay. There were about 35 dealers in attendance each offering a bit of variety for anyone's collecting interests. I arrived at the show just shortly after it opened at 9:00 AM and the browsing and buying was very brisk. The sales floor did not begin to die down until closer to noon. This was over all a very worthwhile and well-operated show.

As I was driving by Lambeau Field on my way to the show venue I could not help but notice a large sign at the entrance that announced they are now completely cashless. Apparently this went into effect last fall and I learned from a news article that those without credit or bankcards can use a free cash-to-card conversion station that loads a payment card good for five years from date of issue. This is essentially like buying a prepaid Mastercard. Now this makes me wonder, what does this card look like, since it could certainly be considered a collector's item.

The focus of this month's meeting will be the spring auction. Please review everything for sale listed elsewhere in this newsletter. As previously stated, we will do without the show & tell segment of our meeting. However, in June we are going to have an expanded non-numismatic show & tell segment. So please start thinking about something else you collect that would be interesting to feature and talk about.

It was a real treat to see long time members John and Nancy Wilson at the April meeting. They were in town because the Central States Show would have been held during that time, but since it was cancelled they still made a point to get up here and visit with friends and family. John donated a folder with a great deal of MNS historic memorabilia relating to when the Club was instrumental in hosting the 1986 ANA convention in Milwaukee. This will be added to the Club's archives so future generations can review and appreciate it. Thank you John!

Thanks for your reading attention and happy bidding at the auction this month.

Happy Collecting,
Justin J. Perrault
masters1122@yahoo.com
262.613.9996

Editorial

The late Jim Adams was an active paper money collector from Baraboo, who sadly left us a few years ago. Peter Jacobsohn, one of our members, shared with me some comments on the joys of collecting from a letter he received from Jim shortly before he passed away. Here they are, for our contemplation (very slightly edited):

"My wife jokes that she will call for a big dumpster before she calls the undertaker for me, and I reply that I don't care because I'll be "gone". This is a "head in the sand" attitude, I know, however let's face it, the joys of our collections are in the quest for knowledge and acquisition of items that add to our overall satisfaction in life. I like to feel that makes us a happier and better person in our outlook on life."

Thank you, Peter, for sharing this with us.--LAS

MN\$ 2021

Schedule

Monthly meetings for 2021 are ready to commence. Due to changes at Mayfair Mall, our meetings will run from 6:00-8:00 PM on the 3rd Thursday of each month in the Community Meeting Room in the lower level of Mayfair Mall. Visitors interested in numismatics are welcome.

Monthly meeting programs

Jan 21:	General Business/Show & Tell
Feb 18:	General Business/Show & Tell
March 18:	General Business/Show & Tell
April 15:	General Business/Show & Tell
May 20:	Spring Auction
June 17:	Show & Tell-Non Numismatic
July 15:	Open
Aug 19:	Open/ANA Show Recap
Sept 16:	Open
Oct 21:	Open
Nov 18:	Open
Dec 16:	Christmas Party/Office Elections

Annual Dues

Dues for 2021 are \$10. Please pay Leon A. at the next meeting, or they can be mailed to MNS,

PO Box 26886, Wauwatosa, WI 53226-0886.

Thanks to those who have paid. Those who have not paid will be removed from the club's mailing list.

Random Information

MNS is a volunteer organization. We always need new and interesting programs, activities, and helpers to work at events. MNS will also reimburse refreshment expenses up to \$60. To volunteer, please contact Pres. Justin Perrault at 262.613.9996 or VP Jim Heinrich at 262.796.1814. Thanks to everyone who has stepped up by volunteering their time and talent to make the club a success.

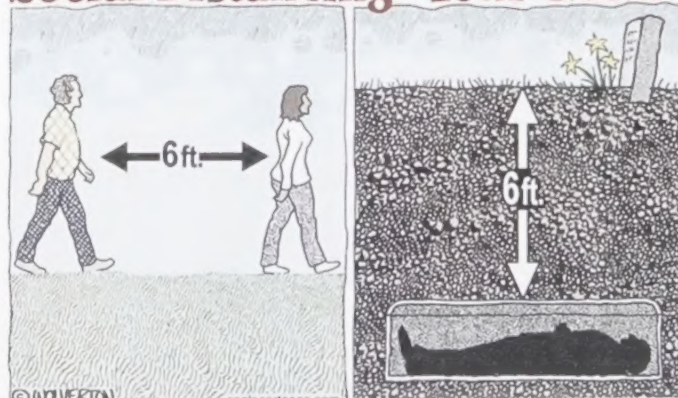
2021 Numismatic Events

May 16	Madison Coin Show Madison Marriott West 1313 John Q Hammons Dr. Middleton (9-4 PM)
Aug. 8	Beaver Dam Coin Club Show American Legion Post 300 Beichl Ave. (9-3 PM)
Aug. 8	Wisconsin Valley Coin Show Quality Inn, Wausau 2901 Hummingbird Rd (9-4 PM)
Aug. 10-14	ANA World's Fair of Money Rosemont, IL
Oct. 3:	MNS Coin Show (at Serb Hall?) 5101 W. Oklahoma Ave. (9-4 PM)

Refreshment Schedule

May 20:	Justin P.
June 17:	Open
July 15:	Open
Aug 19:	Open
Sept 16:	Open
Oct 21:	Open
Nov 18:	Open
Dec 16:	Christmas Party

Social Distancing—Your Choice



Milwaukee Numismatic Society

Minutes
April 15, 2021

President Justin Perreault called the 1014th meeting of the MNS to order at 6:08pm. 20 members & 1 guest were in attendance. The president led the club in the pledge of allegiance. Door prizes were won by Steve J, Howard T, Dave H, Randy T, Jon W, Bruce B, Paul K, Leon S, Leon A, Tom R, Tom S, Justin P, Chris K, and Bill S.

Coin of the Month: Steve J. won the coin of the month, 2020 American Samoa W Quarter MS 65, with a winning bid of \$41.00

Minutes: The minutes for March 2021 were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Chris K. reported that March showed net receipts of \$140.00 and \$233.08 in net disbursements for a negative net cash flow of \$93.08

Raffle: Randy T won the raffle for the American Innovation Quarter: Polio Vaccine – Pennsylvania.

Correspondence: ANA Election Governor Seats material, *Coins*, and *Centinel*

Vice President Report: Refreshments are back, so there are openings for several months this year for members to bring refreshments.

Milwaukee Numismatic Society Coin Show – There is no update on the sale of Serb Hall yet. To be on the safe side Paul K will be researching and contacting other venues. If members have any ideas, please contact Paul K.

May Meeting: In May, the club will hold the Spring Auction. Please contact Leon by the first of May if have any items you would like to include in the auction.

Membership Application: Randy Thern is interesting in joining. He has been collecting since 1971. His interests include coins, paper money postcards, oddities, and autographs. His sponsor is Cliff M.

Show & Tell: Tom S – 1976 Wisconsin Bicentennial Silver medals & 1906 Wauwatosa Depot Post Card, Leon S – Armenian Challenge Coin & US Challenge + 2 Service Medals, Howard T – New Currencies, Bruce B – Two Persian Sasanian Empire Coins: Drachm of Ardashir, an obol of Shapur I, Clifford M – Token good for One Lead Pencil, Randy T – Daisy & Violet Hudson Hilton, Justin P – Howdy Doody & Lincoln

The meeting was informally adjourned at 7:12pm by President Perrault.

Respectfully submitted by James Kubley

The 1965 Winston Churchill Commemorative Crown

By Fred Glueckstein

THE 1965 CHURCHILL CROWN

Sir Winston Churchill, the distinguished British statesman, army officer, orator and Nobel Prize winner, was Prime Minister of the United Kingdom from 1940 to 1945, when he led Britain to victory in the Second World War. From 1951 to 1955, Churchill would again serve as Prime Minister. After an extraordinary life, Churchill passed away in London on Jan. 24, 1965 at the age of 90.

On March 16, 1965, only seven weeks following his death, Parliament voted and approved the Churchill Crown. In September, the Royal Mint released a limited issue Churchill circulating commemorative crown honoring and memorializing his life. The Crown was legal tender valued at 5 Shillings/25 Pence in the Pre-decimal coinage era.

The Churchill Crown featured the Laureate bust of the first "young head" of Queen Elizabeth II not the "older head" adopted that year by Canada, Australia and others. The Queen's portrait on the Churchill Crown is facing right on the obverse. The inscription around the Queen's stunning portrait reads: ELIZABETH II DEI GRATIA REGINA F.D. Translation: "Elizabeth the Second by the Grace of God Queen Defender of the Faith." Below the Queen's portrait is the year of the Crown's issuance, 1965.

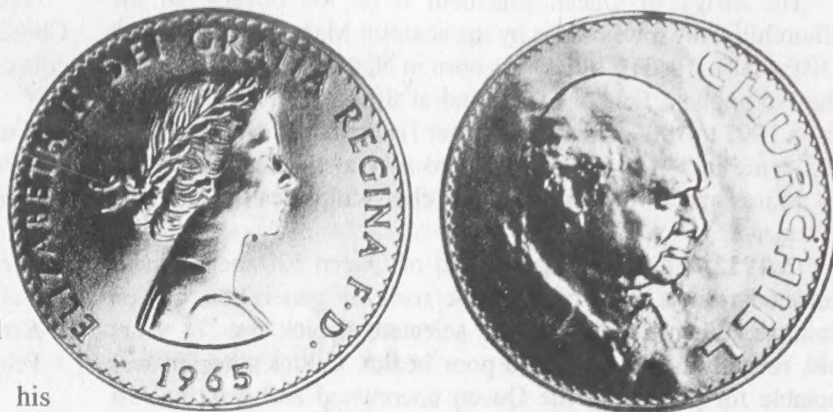
The reverse of the coin depicts a somber looking portrait of Sir Winston Churchill facing right. He is wearing a siren suit, a one-piece garment that is associated with the Second World War. The legend on the right of the portrait reads CHURCHILL in block letters. The coin's edge is reeded. It was also the first crown since 1902 which did not bear a denomination.

The 1965 Churchill Crown was the first coin issued in the United Kingdom to bear the portrait of a commoner on the same coin as a Monarch since Oliver Cromwell in 1658. The Queen had to give her express approval for this currency innovation. The Churchill Crown was made of cupro-nickel alloy, as no silver had been used in any British general circulation coin since 1946.

To meet public demand, *The Washington Post's* London Correspondent, W. Dennis Way, reported on Oct. 17, 1965 that British banks ordered \$19.5 million worth of the Churchill Commemorative Crowns, and the United States ordered another \$14 million worth. The orders indicated an issue by the Royal Mint of at least 50 million Crowns.

OSCAR NEMON

The Churchill portrait on the commemorative crown was created by the British statesman's favorite sculptor Oscar Nemon (1906–1985), a prolific sculptor born from a Jewish family in Osijek, Croatia



Shown is the 1965 Churchill commemorative crown featuring Queen Elizabeth II on the obverse and Winston Churchill on the reverse.
(Image courtesy of PCGS)

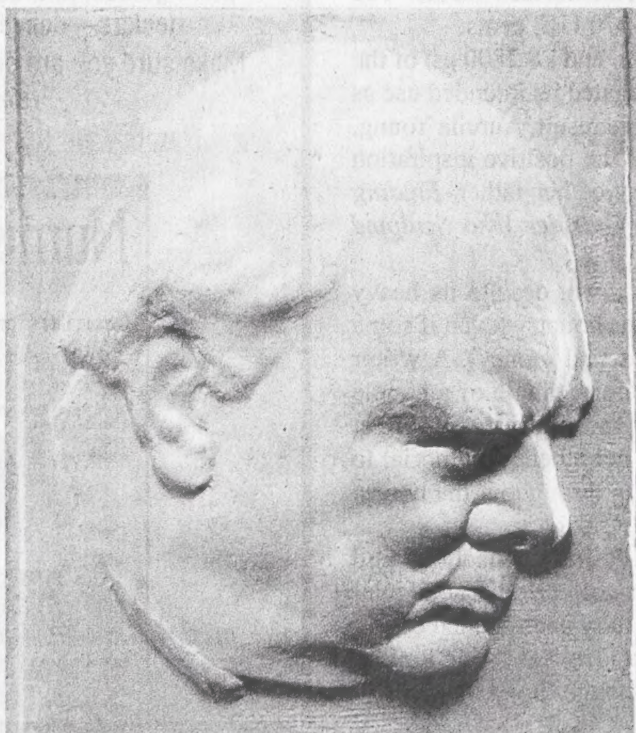
who came to Britain in 1938 to escape the Nazis. In January 1951, a friendship between Nemon and the Churchills arose when they met at the luxury La Mamounia Hotel in Marrakesh.

In the years that followed, Nemon sculpted Churchill numerous times in England, such as in 1954 when he was commissioned to create a statue of Churchill for the Guildhall, London. The statue was unveiled by Churchill on June 21, 1955. In his speech at the Guildhall, London, Churchill praised the sculptor with sincere admiration and humor.

"I greatly admire the art of Mr. Oscar Nemon whose prowess in the ancient realm of sculpture has won such remarkable modern appreciation. I also admire this particular example, which you, my Lord Mayor, have just unveiled, because it seems to be such a very good likeness," said Churchill.

In view of Churchill's admiration of Nemon, the sculptor was the principal choice by the Royal Mint to create the statesman's portrait for the 1965 commemorative crown. Nemon had never sculpted a coin before. The portrait he used was derived from a bust commissioned from him by Queen Elizabeth. The original is at Windsor Castle.

The Royal Mint described the Churchill Crown as "one of the most difficult ever produced." Each cupro-nickel crown had to be struck by two extremely heavy presses, one of 250 tons and the other 360 tons. The Royal Mint had to remove some details such as Nemon's small initials to the left of the head. The relief was flatter than the sculptor



Oscar Nemon's daughter, Aurelia Young, has graciously provided this photo of Nemon's profile of Churchill in relief, which she believes her father may have used for the crown.

had intended and Nemon was not at all happy with the result. As will be seen, however, the Churchill Crown was a big success with the public.

MARY GILLICK

The effigy of Queen Elizabeth II on the obverse of the Churchill Crown was made by the sculptor Mary Gaskell Gillick OBE (1881–1965). Gillick was born in Nottingham and attended the Nottingham School of Art and at the Royal College of Art from 1902 to 1904. After making her first exhibition at the Royal Academy in 1911, Gillick designed several medals to be used as awards and several other larger relief sculptures in stone and bronze.

In 1952, Gillick's effigy design of Queen Elizabeth II was selected from a field of 17 to be used on general-circulation coinage. When her design was selected, Gillick was 71 years old, recently bereaved and in poor health. Gillick's design was notable for portraying the Queen uncrowned and was the last to be used on the pre-decimal coinage. Her image of the Queen was used on coinage in the United Kingdom and elsewhere from 1953 to 1970.

Prior to the Queen's effigy portrait, Gillick focused on metallic work and portraiture. She created many commemorative medals including for the Royal Society, Institute of Physics and Royal Academy Schools. A year after creating the effigy portrait of Elizabeth II, Gillick made a joint portrait of the Queen with the Duke of Edinburgh which was also widely used on commemorative medals. Mary Gaskell's effigy of Elizabeth II can be appreciated on the 1965 Churchill Crown.

POPULARITY OF THE CHURCHILL CROWN

In September 1965, Lady Churchill visited the Royal Mint and struck the very first Churchill Commemorative Crown. The Churchill Crown was to become a huge success with the public. After just two months, about three million crowns were circulating worldwide. By March 1966 more than three times the number of any previous Crown issue had been struck.

Upon release by the Royal Mint, the Churchill Crown was distributed through British banks. This occurred as the Royal Mint preferred not to deal directly with collectors or dealers. American collectors had to obtain the Churchill Crown from British or American dealers or certain authorized banks. The Churchill Crown had a nominal value of 70 U.S. cents.

The size and heavy weight (38.61 mm. and 28.2800 g.) of the Churchill Crown, however, ultimately negated its intended use as a circulating coin. Despite the undesirable result, Aurelia Young, the daughter of Oscar Nemon, wrote of the positive inspiration of the Churchill Crown in the biography of her father, *Finding Nemon: The Extraordinary Life of the Outsider Who Sculpted the Famous*.

Young wrote: "Nemon's Churchill Crown, despite its heavy weight, was damaging pockets all over the country (even if some taxi drivers were hesitant to accept it as real money). A writer in the *Daily Telegraph* said that 'the massive jingle of a couple of these coins in my pocket has a far more heartening effect than any tatty old ten-bob note . . . is it not a better memorial to Churchill to have his coin readily moving throughout the honest business of a free kingdom?'"

Today, the Churchill Crown is a desired collectible and should be considered in a numismatic collection. The regular 1965 copper-nickel Churchill Crown in fully uncirculated condition retails for about \$5.00. A rare almost identical "Satin Finish" VIP Specimen coin was also struck. Although the exact mintage is not known, it is valued at \$1,400.00.

The eye-catching Churchill Commemorative Crown is an enduring tribute to the life and accomplishments of the great English statesman. From an artistic perspective, the Churchill Crown also displays the superb talents of Mary Gaskell Gillick and Oscar Nemon, two eminent sculptors of the 20th century.

From a numismatic perspective, over the years, the 1965 Churchill Crown has become one of the most well known British coins of the last century.

Fred Glueckstein is a regular contributor to *The Churchill Project*, *Hillsdale College* and *The International Churchill Society*.

References

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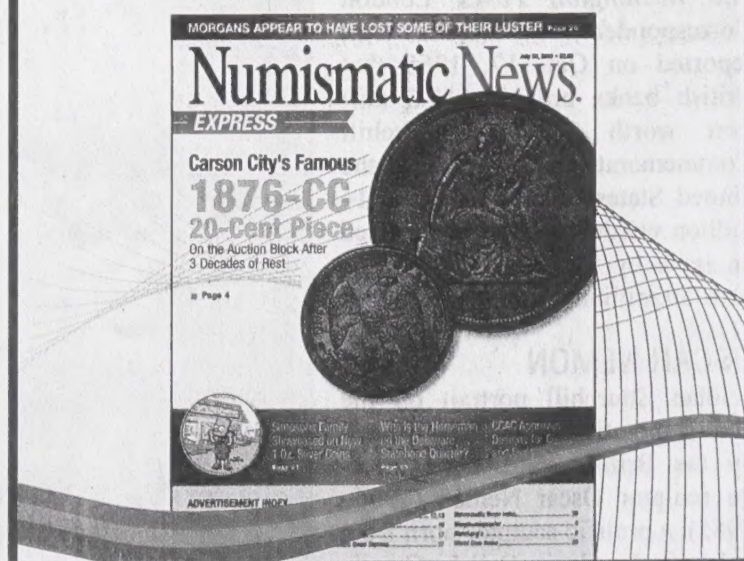
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Official Wooden Money by Dave Hunsicker

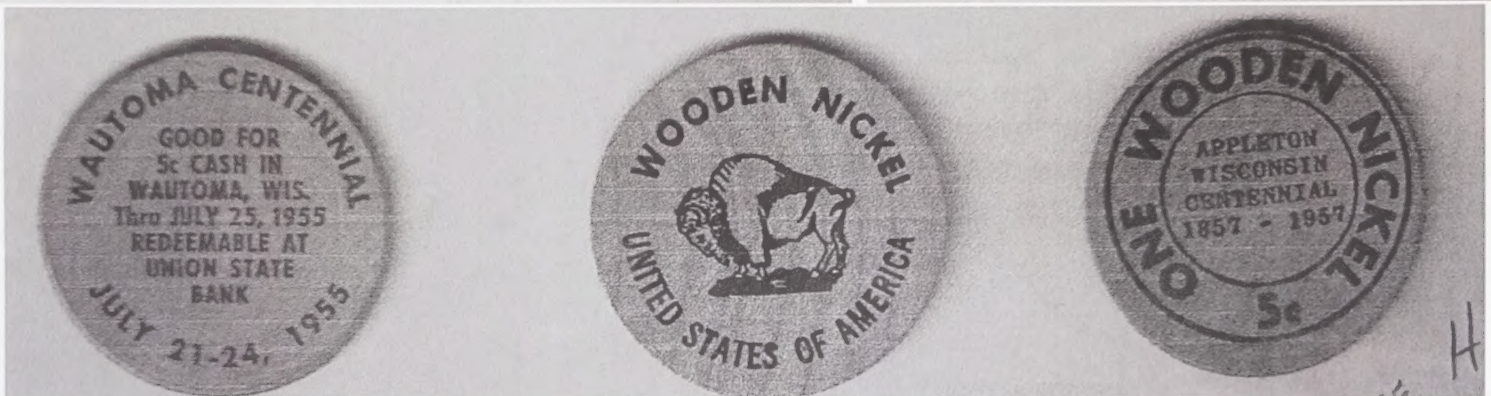
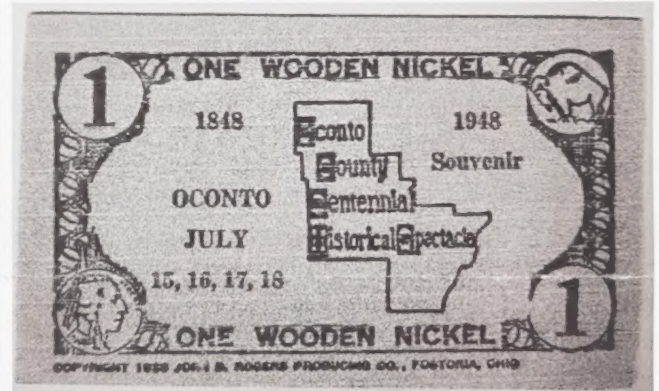
Start something new during this pandemic. There is more to numismatics than gold and silver bullion or slabbed coins. What do you get out of buying and selling bullion (hoping you can make a gain)? Boring. Slab your coins so you can get a MS65, MS66 or MS70? Keep resubmitting so you might get a higher grade? Boring.

Try something interesting like collecting wooden nickels. Wooden money collectors are called lignadenarists, derived from *lignus* (Latin for 'wood') and *denarius* (Latin for 'money'). I started collecting wooden nickels in 1964. I became interested in 'official flat wooden nickels' which were typically issued for an official function or event such as a centennial or fair.

The John Rogers Co. of Fostoria, Ohio, is well known for printing many of the official 2-1/2 x 4 inch flats. Official round woods, the type we commonly see today, came around 1955-1956 because they were cheaper to produce. I am still adding to my collection; some woods are harder to find than a 1909-S VDB cent or a 1916-D dime.

Since this field is vast, I decided to stick with Wisconsin officials up through 1957. MNS's own Darrell Luedtke has been a long-time officer of the International Organization of Wooden Money Collectors (IOWMC), which still exists. Membership is \$7.50 and comes with a monthly newsletter, *Bunyan Chips*. Darrell knows everything about woods, and wrote the 350-page *Guide Book of Wooden Money*. I joined IOWMC in 1964.

The following Wisconsin communities issued official woods up to 1957: Appleton, Belleville, Berlin, Clintonville, Eagle River, Edgerton, Fond du Lac, Friendship, Iowa County, Kaukauna, Manitowoc, Merrill, Neillsville, New London, New Richmond, Oconto County, Oshkosh, Portage, Prairie du Chien, Reeseville, Rhinelander, Shawano County, Sheboygan, Sparta, Sturgeon Bay, Superior, Watertown, Waupaca, Wausau, Wautoma, Wood County.



May 2021 MNS Auction

1. Milwaukee Brewers 25th anniversary large pewter medal, 1994, signed Bud Selig, MB \$10
2. Bag of 260 avg circulated USA wheat cents, dated 1909 to the 1930s, MB \$6
3. 1999 state quarters, complete set, 10 coins in plastic display case, MB \$6
4. USA play coins, plastic, a huge bagful of various denominations
5. Golden box useful for coin storage filled with coin collecting supplies: tubes, holders, capsules
6. Milwaukee Brewers cancelled check, 1976, made out to Lappin Electric
7. Large envelope of fantasy notes, cheesecake, 4 types
8. 5 different one million dollar notes, 4 from Milwaukee BBC Lighting
9. 4 vintage books on world and foreign coins, 2 by expert Fred Reinfeld
10. 3 like new books on US coin collecting, including Dave Bowers' *Experts Guide*
11. Illustrated Antiques History Guide, great section on coins/medals, like new
12. 1 roll of 50 1960-D Small Date cents, BU condition, MB \$10
13. *Collecting Paper Money* guide book, fully illustrated, excellent condition
14. NGC census book on certified encapsulated world coins
15. 2 metal boxes for storing coins
16. Bag of Fed Shreds from Fed Reserve Bank of Chicago
17. Vietnam era blue US Air Force hat with pin & 2 buttons MB\$10
18. 2 Uncirculated Wisconsin state quarters P&D set in holder
19. Recycled \$100 of currency mug & NY Fed Shreds
20. 100 1950's wheat cents: mostly 1955, 1957, 1958 P&D
21. 18 Canadian cents: Mostly 1960s-70s
22. 1928 Al Smith & 1900 McKinley-Roosevelt Reproduction Pins
23. Bag of Brewers baseball cards
24. Metal token, Milwaukee Miller High Life beer
25. 1969 Green Bay Football FDC (1 stamp on first day cover)
26. 1969 Green Bay Football FDC (2 stamps on first day cover)
27. 1952 Washington Carver 50 c silver commemorative
28. Pair of 1945-S silver dimes, one is micro S
29. 1946 Booker T Washington 50 c silver commemorative
30. MNS 50th anniversary rolled Indian cent and 1934 Buffalo nickel
31. 1950-D Jefferson Nickel
32. 1893 Columbian silver 50 c commemorative
33. 1964 Recalled wooden nickel First National Bank of Monroe WI